

AK Kodiak Salmon Purse Seine Fishery

Fishing gear type: Purse Seine

Current category: Category II*

Basis for current classification on the LOF: The total annual mortality and serious injury of humpback whales (Central North Pacific stock) in this fishery is greater than 1% and less than 50% of the stock's Potential Biological Removal (PBR) level.

Current list of marine mammal species/stocks injured/killed (a ⁽¹⁾ indicates those stocks driving the fishery's classification): Humpback whale, Central North Pacific ⁽¹⁾.

Estimated number of current participants: 370

Take Reduction Teams/Plans that affect this fishery: None.

Year added to the LOF: 2007

Category when originally listed: Category II

Basis for original classification on the LOF: This fishery was categorized as a Category II based on a single, documented mortality of a humpback whale (Central North Pacific), in 2005. This single event translated to an annual average mortality of 0.2 animals/year, or 1.55% of PBR (PBR=12.9).

Estimated number of participants when originally listed: 370

Past names, if any: None.

Gear description/method for fishing: This fishery uses purse seine gear with a mesh size of less than 7 in (18 cm), between 100 fathoms (600 ft; 183 m) and 200 fathoms (1,200 ft; 366 m) long, and between 100 meshes and 325 meshes deep. At least 50 fathoms (300 ft; 91 m) of a purse seine must be 150 meshes in depth. One lead, no more than 100 fathoms (600 ft; 183 m) in length, may be used with each purse seine. The aggregate length of a seine and lead may not exceed 250 fathoms (1,500 ft; 457 m). Leads must be removed from the water within two hours after a season or fishing period closure. Overlapping panels of net web may not be used in seine leads.

Target species: Salmon.

Spatial/temporal distribution of effort: The fishery occurs from June 1 to October 31, with fishing periods open by regulation and emergency orders, in the Kodiak Area, including all waters of AK south of Cape Douglas (58° 51.10'N. lat.), west of 150°W. long., north of 55° 30'N. lat., and north and east of the southern entrance of Imuya Bay.

Levels of observer coverage each year[†]: This fishery has not been observed by the Alaska Marine Mammal Observer Program.

Management and regulations: This purse seine fishery is managed by the AK Department of Fish and Game as a limited entry fishery with gear restrictions on the mesh and net size, and area closures.

*The fishery is classified based on mortalities and serious injuries of a marine mammal stock greater than 1% and less than 50% (Category II) of the stock's Potential Biological Removal (PBR) level.

[†] Observer coverage levels include the latest information reported in the most current final Stock Assessment Reports (SAR).

History of Changes on the LOF

2006 LOF: Added a superscript “1” in Table 1 after humpback whale (Central North Pacific), indicating that takes of this stock are driving the classification of the fishery.